HELP FOR AFFORDABLE BROADBAND IS HERE!
Federal Affordable Connectivity Program for PA Consumers

What is the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)?

One of the programs to come out of the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act is the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), which will expand and make permanent the temporary Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) program created in response to COVID-19 as the funding source to provide discounts on broadband for income-eligible households. This program is being funded for $14.2 billion, which is part of the $65 billion aimed at broadband issues.

How Much is the Average ACP Support?

The program will provide eligible households with discounts of up to $30 a month for broadband service. Eligible households can also get a one-time discount of up to $100 on equipment to use the internet. Equipment includes a computer or tablet if they contribute $10-$50 toward the price for the equipment. The benefit is limited to one service discount per month and one device discount per household. This ACP is in addition to, not in place of, the current Lifeline Program that provides $9.25 a month to support affordable broadband service.

Who is Eligible for the ACP?

The program is income based. For example, it is open to Lifeline subscribers and households that currently participate in Lifeline, including consumers whose income is at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines or who receive WIC, Medicaid, SNAP, SSI, Federal Housing or Veterans benefits. Consumers who receive free or reduced-price school lunch, or have received a federal Pell grant, are also eligible.

Households that qualified for the Emergency Broadband Benefit due to a substantial loss of income due to job loss or furlough since Feb. 29, 2020, or by meeting the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's COVID-19 program will need to requalify for the Affordable Connectivity Program. Failure to re-qualify will result in the loss of the benefit as of March 1, 2022. More information is available on the FCC website.

How Can Consumers Get the ACP?

The ACP opened on Dec. 31, 2021. Check the USAC website for more information.
You may also visit fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit.

To apply for the ACP Program:

1. Visit www.acpbenefit.org
2. Call your internet service provider and ask if they are an ACP provider.

Who is Providing ACP in Pennsylvania?

Most of the telephone, cable and wireless providers are providing ACP. Consumers also can visit the FCC website to see a list of participating Pennsylvania providers.

Where Can I Get More Information on ACP?

Visit the USAC website. Ask your provider about ACP. Visit the FCC website.